

# Proclamation

**Whereas,** the first Monday in March, has been designated as COVID-19 Victims and Survivors Memorial Day; and

**Whereas,** COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) is an illness caused by a virus that can transmit from person to person, and has spread across the world, creating a global pandemic that has had catastrophic effects on human life, our community, and our economy; and

**Whereas,** local and state governments, health departments, and public servants have taken bold actions to protect residents, support struggling local economies, and find innovative ways to provide services; and

**Whereas,** in response to the rapid spread of COVID-19 and stay-at-home orders, essential workers stepped up to provide critical services to help protect our communities and save lives, sacrificing their own health and safety; and

**Whereas,** COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on low-income communities and communities of color, exacerbating inequities already prevalent in our systems that we must address as a nation; and

**Whereas,** the symptoms and severity of COVID-19 can vary dramatically by individual, and the long-term health implications for survivors is largely unknown, as many survivors suffer with lingering side-effects of the disease long after they no longer test positive; and

**Whereas,** more than 5.9 million people worldwide, 949,000 people in the United States, and 84,000 people in California have lost their lives due to COVID-19, including 116 residents of Alameda; and

**Whereas,** each life lost to COVID-19 matters and leaves a hole in the hearts of loved ones, family members, and the surrounding community; and

**Whereas,** public health guidance and policies targeted at prevention, such as social distancing, wearing masks in crowded public settings, and staying home if you test positive, or experience COVID symptoms help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, prevent illness, and lessen the burden on individuals and society.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved,** that I, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Mayor of the City of Alameda, on behalf of the Alameda City Council, do hereby designate the first Monday in March as "COVID-19 Memorial Day", in remembrance of those who lost their lives, and in honor of those who continue to suffer from the impact of this deadly virus.

*Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft*

Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft  
Mayor  
City of Alameda, California

March 7, 2022

